

**MILPER Message Number  
16-233**

**Proponent  
RCHS-SVD-PA**

**Title  
Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Interservice Physician Assistant Training  
Program Application**

**...Issued:[8/17/2016 11:35:18 AM]...**

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- A. AR 40-501, (Standards of Medical Fitness), 14 December 2007 (RAR 003, 04 August 2011).
- B. AR 601-20, (The Interservice Physician Assistant Training Program), 14 August 2009.
- C. AR 600-9, (The Army Body Composition Program), 28 June 2013.
- D. DODI 6000.13, subject: Accession and Retention Policies, Programs, and Incentives for Military Health Professions Officers (HPOs), 30 December 2015 (Change 1, 3 May 2016).
- E. AR 135-100, (Appointment of Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the Army), 1 September 1994.
- F. AR 135-101, (Appointment of Reserve Commissioned Officers for Assignment to Army Medical Department Branches), 15 February 1984.
- G. AR 601-100, (Appointment of Commissioned and Warrant Officers in the Regular Army), 21 November 2006.
- H. AR 670-1, (Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia), 10 April 2015.
- I. HQDA EXORD 202-16, subject: Accessions Occupational Physical Assessment Test (OPAT) Implementation, 13 June 2016.

1. This MILPER message will expire NLT 17 August 2017.
2. Purpose: This message is the FY 2017 announcement of the Interservice Physician Assistant Program (IPAP) board and solicits applications from regular Army (RA) and

United States Army Reserve (USAR), for enlisted, commissioned officers, and warrant officers.

- a. This message solicits applications for IPAP classes to start in January, April, and August 2018 at the AMEDD Center and School located at Joint Base San Antonio – Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Applications for the requirements completion course (RCC) will not be accepted for the FY 2017 board for FY 2020-2021 accession.
- b. Enlisted students selected for this training will attend in an officer candidate status and will be accessed into the Army Medical Specialist Corps (SP Corps) as commissioned officers upon successful completion of the training.
- c. All enlisted applicants must have successfully completed the Basic Leadership Course (BLC) prior to the start of IPAP.
- d. Warrant officer students for this training will attend in their current warrant officer grade and will be accessed into the SP Corps as commissioned officers upon successful completion of the training.
- e. Commissioned officer students selected for this training will report with their current rank held (Ref. E. (3)).
- f. Applications from other services for regular Army seats will not be accepted for the FY 2017 board.
- g. ROTC cadets while in cadet status are not eligible to apply for IPAP.
- h. Army personnel selected for the IPAP are exempt from stop loss, stop movement, and life cycle unit requirements (AR 601-20 2-2.e.)
- i. Civilian personnel are not eligible to apply for IPAP.

### 3. Responsibilities: (Clarification to AR 601-20 1-4)

Addition to AR 601-20 1-4.d. Unit commanders and immediate supervisors will interview and provide specific recommendations on applicants under their control and/or supervision. Recommending Physician Assistant (PA) will interview and provide specific recommendations on applicants under their control and/or supervision. Physician Assistant recommendations must use USAREC Form 601-37.11 (old USAREC form 195) and include documentation of at least 80 hours of shadowing. Applicants without a unit Physician Assistant may request approval for 80 shadowing hours with a health care professional other than a Physician Assistant by email thru the IPAP program manager to the PA consultant to the Office of The Surgeon General.

#### 4. Program Information:

##### a. Ineligibility (Clarification to AR 601-20 2-1):

(1) Update to AR 601-20 2-1(3): The IPAP program manager will process all waivers to the appropriate waiver authority.

(2) Update to AR 601-20 2-1(3)(a):

| Who Requires a TIS waiver to board   | Who is Ineligible to Apply                                       |
|--|--|
| Applicants with less than 3 years as of AFS as of 01 January 2018          | Applicants with over 13 years of total AFS as of 01 January 2018 |
| Applicants with greater than 8 years as of total AFS as of 01 January 2018 | Officers with over 8 years of AFCS as of 01 January 2018         |
| Officers with more than 5 years of AFCS as of 01 January 2018              |  |

\* AFC stands for Active Federal Service

\* AFCS stands for Active Federal Commissioned Service

(3) Clarification to the AR 601-20 2-1(3)(b): Enlisted applicants only: per 10 U.S.C. subsection 532(A)(2) and AR 601-100 PAR.1-9 An original appointment as a commissioned officer in the RA must occur prior to age 42. For the USAR, an original appointment as a commissioned officer must occur prior to the age of 47. In order to be eligible to compete for an active duty IPAP seat, you will have to be under the age of 42 as of 05 June 2020.

(4) Change to AR 601-20 2-1.b: All applicants with P2 profile (except hearing and eyes) are ineligible to apply for IPAP. (An exception to board may be requested thru the IPAP program manager to the PA consultant to the Office of The Surgeon General.)

(5) Clarification to AR 601-20 2-1.b: Applicants with a temporary profile are ineligible to board. (An exception to board may be requested thru the IPAP program manager to the PA consultant to the Office of The Surgeon General.)

b. Basic prerequisites: Updates can be found at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa/>

(1) Change to AR 601-20 2-2.a: Due to the critical skills war time shortage of 65D in the USAR, soldiers in those components can only apply for their current components IPAP seats.

(2) Change to AR 601-20 2-2.m (1): Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.65 and a minimum GPA of 2.85 for all science courses as determined by affiliated university.

(3) Applicants must complete all mandatory science courses (Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry) within 8 years of the start of IPAP (prior to Fall 2010). Credit for MOS-related training for 68K (lab technicians), 18D (Special Forces medics), and 68WM6/68C (licensed practical nurses) must have completed their training within 8 years of IPAP (prior to Fall 2010) to be accepted.

(4) Highly recommend applicants take labs with mandatory science courses: Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry. Highly recommend applicants take labs with any additional science courses to include but not limited to: Biology, Microbiology, Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Sociology.

(5) Applicants must take and pass the Occupational Physical Assessment Test (OPAT) based on the physical demand category (PDC) IAW HQDA EXORD 202-16.

(6) Applicants must complete the online IPAP registration through UNICAS, at <http://ipap.liaisoncas.com>. Online registrations will be open from 15 OCT 2016 through 1 MAR 2017. The online registration is mandatory for all interested applicants.

(7) Applicants must include a copy of their official transcripts with their completed packet to USAREC.

(8) Students selected for IPAP are expected to bring a copy of all transcripts with them to IPAP.

(9) The Medical Terminology course must be completed within 5 years of reporting to IPAP (prior to Fall 2013) by either taking the military correspondence course, a college class, or MOS training.

(10) Waivers are processed and forwarded for the appropriate action through the IPAP program manager (preboard and throughout the entirety of the IPAP program) IAW AR 601-100, AR 135-100, AR135-101, AR 40-501, and local USAREC policy to ensure that soldiers remain eligible for appointment as a commissioned officer.

(11) Packets will NOT board without an approved conditional release (DA form 4187 for RA and DD 368 for USAR). Applicants must maintain command and branch support for attending IPAP, in the form of an approved conditional release throughout the application process to include prematriculation into IPAP (non-waiverable administrative requirement). Failure to maintain command support will result in removal from the selection list and from the OML.

(12) Copies of SAT scores must be included in the USAREC application (HQ, USAREC ATTN: RCHS-SVD-PA, 1307 Third Ave, Fort Knox, 40121-2726). SAT scores must be sent directly to USAREC, by including code '3994' on your SAT scantron document, and may be submitted as soon as 01 October 2016, but NLT 1 March 2017 (No Exceptions).

c. Academic delay versus the requirements completion course: Update to AR 601-20

are found at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa>.

(1) The requirements completion course will not be available for the FY 2017 board for FY 2020-2021 accession.

d. Application deadlines: Updates can be found at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa>

(1) Packets must be complete and provided to HQ, USAREC NLT 01 March of the application year, or they will not be processed. Applications will not be returned to the originator. Do not staple or bind application documents. Do not place in binders or cover sheets. Place all documents in sequence and place in a 2 pocket folder.

e. Program description and service obligation:

(1) Update to AR 601-20 2-4 b(1): Didactic (instructional) instruction (Phase 1) will be provided at the AMEDD Center and School for a period of approximately 64 weeks.

(2) Update to AR 601-20 2-4 b(2): Applicatory (clinical) training (Phase 2) will occur at selected Army military treatment facilities for a period of approximately 52 weeks.

(3) Clarification to the AR 601-20 2-4 d(4): Commissioned officers will attend IPAP in their current officer grade held and 'detailed' into the SP Corps. Upon successful completion of Phase 2 training, an eligible graduate are tendered a RA or USAR appointment as a commissioned officer in the SP Corps, with their rank determined by their individual constructive service credit calculated IAW DODI 6000.13, Enclosure 3 1.b., and policy established by the OTSG.

(4) Update to AR 601-20 3-1 C(3): The basic application memorandum for commissioned officers will consist of the following statement adjustments, "I understand that upon successful graduation from this program and meeting all regulatory requirements, I will be appointed as a Regular Army commissioned officer and awarded the AOC 65D. Appointment as a commissioned officer in the SP Corps, with an AOC 65D, will not be tendered until successful completion of Phase 2 training."

(5) Update to the AR 601-20 4-1.C: Commissioned officers will report with their current rank held.

(6) Commissioned officers, while attending IPAP, will be assigned to B Company 187<sup>th</sup> Medical Battalion for command and control during this period of training. They will be responsible for in/out processing, personal finances, UCMJ authority, academic tracking, and enforcement of program policy.

(7) Officers will be under the control of their basic branch for promotions and career status integration while attending IPAP.

(8) All regular Army IPAP students will incur a 54 month obligation for the training.

(9) United States Army reservists will have a total of an 8 year obligation for the IPAP training: the Selective Reserve obligation of 6 years and an IRR obligation of 2 years.

(10) Application: Basic application guidelines are found at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa>.

f. Milestones in processing applications:

(1) Effective upon publication of this message, application will be accepted if postmarked by 1 March 2017. Note: The official SAT results must be received by USAREC (RCHS-SVD-SP) NLT 1 March 2017 and all packets must have a copy of the SAT results in the packet prior to being certified by the PSB, S1, or the Commander.

(2) Applicants must include ALL required documents in their packet on the initial submission NLT 1 March 2017. Applicants must ensure that their Commander's global email address is on their letter of recommendation. Upon receipt of an incomplete packet, the applicant and their Commander will be notified of the inability to process the packet. Incomplete packets will not be boarded.

(3) Applicants must complete the online IPAP registration through UNICAS, at <http://ipap.liaisoncas.com>. Online registrations will be open from 15 October 2016 through 1 March 2017. The online registration is mandatory for all interested applicants.

(4) Selections will be announced by USAREC (RCHS-SVD) via a worldwide MILPER message after July 2017. This link can be found via Army Knowledge Online. It is located on the home website of Human Resource Command (HRC) – Fort Knox, KY. <https://www.hrc.army.mil/milper/>.

5. Inquiries and assistance:

For additional assistance, contact the IPAP program manager, HQ, USAREC (RCHS-SVD-PA), 1307 Third Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40121-2726. 1-800-223-3737 EXT. 60386; Commercial (502) 626-0386 OR DSN: 536-0386, email: [adrienne.m.kramer.mil@mail.mil](mailto:adrienne.m.kramer.mil@mail.mil) or visit [www.usarec.army.mil/armypa](http://www.usarec.army.mil/armypa).